NOVAPPLE Newsletter

$ 1.75

VOLUME VIII - NUMBER 4 NORTHERN VIRGINIA APPLE USERS GROUP MAY 1988

CHOICES

By Jim Thornburg

All NOVAPPLE members make a choice, when acquiring membership in NOVAPPLE. Membership entitles each member to have the following Choices:

Bulletin Board Access (Access to the WORLD)
NOVAPPLE (Telephone Service announcing mtgs, etc.)
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Disk Library (latest Public Domain Programs)
Paper Library (Excellent Reference material)
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In the last few weeks and months, the attendance to each of NOVAPPLE meetings, has dropped dramatically, the Bulletin Board Hard Disk crashed, further cutting off access to current knowledge. Another Choice?

NOVAPPLE needs your choice to attend, your support (monetarily as well as physically). If your choice is as an Inactive member, send a donation to NOVAPPLE so NOVAPPLE can continue to supply each and every member with a Choice of high quality services, such as named above. NOVAPPLE needs your choice on inputs and in meetings or activities.

Each Member of NOVAPPLE has a choice of attending Meetings, of using the Bulleting Board, of working on the Newsletter (writing articles or assisting the editor). A Choice of Donating Time and/or Money to help NOVAPPLE to become more self-sustaining financially. A Choice in the type of programs and the choice of content of such programs.

Which CHOICE is the best for you as a NOVAPPLE member? Only you can respond and answer that. If you do not choose to participate in any activity, you can choose to be a part of NOVAPPLE, by donating money. Remember others just starting out in computering, needs your choice of ideas and experiences.

Your Choice can help build a better NOVAPPLE Club, by actively participating or by donating something....make your Choice felt...by sending a Check of your CHOICE, made out to TREASURER NOVAPPLE, thru the NOVAPPLE Club's Post Office Box.

--NoVA

IN-SIDE THIS ISSUE:

More about the "Virus" affecting the Macintoshes from Dave Lavery, April's issue of Vaporware from Murphy Sewall, a update of The NAUG Conference by Jim Thornburg, and a personal review of AE's IBM/PC Emulator Card for the Apple II gs and more...

--NoVA

NEW 'VIRUS' INFECTS NASA MACINTOSHES.

Newsday, April 88.

By Robin Schatz

A pesky new computer "virus" infecting Apple Macintosh computers has surfaced at National Aeronautics and Space Administration offices in the Washington area and numerous other locations around the country and has prompted an investigation by Apple Computer and federal authorities, according to company and industry sources.

Computer viruses, which often are the work of knowledgeable computer pranksters, are programs that can clone themselves rapidly, spreading from one disk to another and one program to another. They can infect a whole network of computers that are electronically linked. Viruses, which are usually passed by sharing software, can modify a program's operation, causing computers to malfunction or crash. At their worst, they may destroy vital data.

In the past three weeks, Apple has received numerous reports of a virus, called Scores, which has not been known to erase any data but can cause malfunctions in printing and accessing files and can cause system crashes, said Cynthia Macon, an Apple spokeswoman. Fortunately, this particular virus does not spread from document to document when word processing programs are in use, she said.

Macon added that Apple, whose offices have been infected by the virus, is cooperating with federal authorities to track down the virus' creator.

At NASA, spokesman Charles Redmond said 200 of 400 Macintoshes in the agency's Washington area offices - many of them connected to local area networks - were recently infected by the virus. "This particular virus does not attack data. We have no record indicating anyone lost anything important," said Redmond.

NASA employee David Lavery was the first to alert fellow Macinstosh programmers to the appearance of the virus on a computer-generated memo over the network Apple Link. He discussed the problems it caused, including difficulty in running Macintoshes' drawing program, printing problems and frequent crashes. Lavery declined to be interviewed by Newsday.

The Sores virus can be detected by the altered symbols that appear in two Macintosh files, Scrapbook and Note Pad. Instead of the Macintosh logo, the user would see a symbol that looks like a dog-eared piece of paper. Two days after the virus is transmitted, it is activated and begins to randomly infect applications, such as word processing and spread sheet programs.

The Dallas-based computer conglomerate EDS Corp. also started seeing evidence of the virus a few weeks ago but isolated it and stopped its spread, said spokesman Bill Wright. Like most major corporations, EDS is reticent about discussing its ways of fighting these viruses for fear that the creators will only modify the program to avoid detection.

--NoVA

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And We Mean Business!

Clinton Computer is pleased to announce the Grand Opening of our sixth retail store! In mid-May we will open for business at 1905 K Street, Northwest, Washington, DC.

This store will be authorized to sell Apple, IBM and NEC micro-computers as well as printers, monitors, software and supplies. There will also be a service department offering factory-authorized repairs.

Larry Cohen, Branch Manager for Clinton Computer's New K Street Store

Larry Cohen, who has been an account executive with Clinton Computer for over a year, has been named Branch Manager. He comes to this job with many years of experience in the microcomputer industry. Prior to his joining Clinton Computer, he was Regional Manager for Logical Choice's chain of computer stores.

Watch our weekly double-page ads in the Monday Business Section of ***The Washington Post*** for special sales and events to celebrate this Grand Opening! Stop by and say "Hi" to Larry if you're in Washington!

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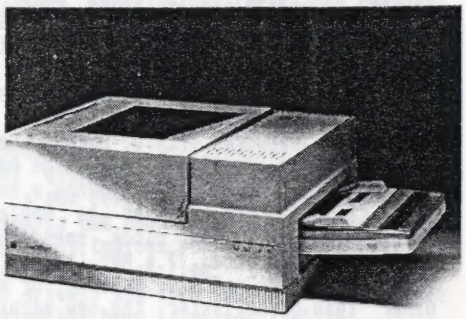
Call 442-3800 to register

DISCOUNT POLICY FOR NOVAPPLE MEMBERS

CLINTON COMPUTER offers NovAPPLE members a 25% DISCOUNT OFF THE LIST PRICE on all non-allocated Apple brand peripherals (no CPU's), software and AppleCare. For upgrades, the 25% discount applies to both the parts and normal labor rate. Discount is available to persons who have been members for at least 3 months. Discount cannot be applied retroactively. Members need to present their cards up-front. No phone or mail orders, please. Discount cannot be used in combination with other promotions. Products on allocation from Apple are excluded from this offer. Clinton Computer reserves the right to change this policy at any time.



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VAPORWARE

From Murphy Sewall

From the April 1988 APPLE PULP
H.U.G.E. Apple Club (E. Hartford) News Letter
$15/year,P.O. Box 18027,East Hartford, CT 06118

IIgs+.

Next month inaugurates the fifth year of this column which began with rumors about the Apple IIx (which eventually became the IIgs). It seems only fitting to mark the anniversary by opening with the rumors about where the Apple II line goes from here. Although Apple's Vice President for Development, Jean-Louis Gassee, has been quoted as saying that there would be a successor to the IIgs, little else has appeared in print. Here's what's been gleaned from the electronic networks (PLATO, USENET, Genie, Compuserve, etc.) and an Apple developer and IIgs beta tester who works in Connecticut. Apple will announce a successor to the current IIgs (a gs+?) as earlier as Applefest in May, but more likely in '89. The clock speed will be either 5.36 MHz (Apple's preference), 7.6 MHz (if there's sufficient "noise" from developers and user groups), or even 12 Mhz (longshot). Other than being faster, the new machine will offer 512K RAM as standard and 256K of ROM. Upgrades from the present IIgs (via motherboard swap) will be available for between $300 and $500 (depends on what speed processor finally is adopted).

Apple's Compact Disk.

A read only compact disk drive, called the Apple CD SC, will ship in May for $1,199. One disk will hold well over half a gigabyte (more than 550 Mbytes) with an average access time between 400 and 500 milliseconds. When first shipped, the product will support only the Macintosh native file structure and Apple II ProDOS. Support for the High Sierra CD ROM standard is expected (as a software upgrade) by midsummer. Among the products that will be available on the drive will be a new version of Grolier's Academic American Encyclopedia ($395, also available this month for 512K MS-DOS computers). - InfoWorld 7 March and Hartford Courant 16 March.

Tandy in Full Court Press?

Both Texas Instruments and Tandy are preparing to market Macintosh clones. Both would like the other to be first (and bare the brunt of a likely copyright infringement suit by Apple). At least two Asian companies also are said to have developed Mac clones. Tandy also has a PS/2 clone awaiting the lawyers' okay. Is Radio Shack ready to go to court with Apple and IBM at the same time? - InfoWorld 22 February and 7 March.

Sun Killer.

Atari is expected to introduce two business oriented computers at the Hanover Computer Fair in West Germany this month. One will be a 68030 based scientific workstation based on the Unix V operating system. Either rumors that this computer would be built around the Inmos T-800 transputer (last November's column) were inaccurate, or Atari has an even more powerful machine (or a coprocessor board) under development. The standard configuration will include 4 Mbytes of RAM, an 80 Mbyte hard disk, and a 1,280 by 960 color display. The price will be under $5,000, some say way under $5,000. Shipments in Europe aren't scheduled until Fall and the U.S. introduction isn't anticipated until next Spring. The second Atari will be the oft-rumored complete desk-top publishing system - computer, laser printer, and software - for under $5,000 (see last August's column). - Random Access 6 March and InfoWorld 7 March.

After NeXt.

Sun is rumored to be more worried about Steve Job's NeXt computer (see Vaporware for January and March) than the threat from Atari. If the NeXt machine actually is announced, Sun will counter with an inexpensive SPARC workstation (running Unix) to compete with it. Sun would rather keep its machine in the lab because it is a low-margin product that may simply draw sales away from other Sun computers. - InfoWorld 14 March.

New for Big Blue.

IBM says they plan to make major new product announcements about every six months. The most recent are promised new hard disk drives from a mini 2 inch, 50 Mbyte to a maxi 5.25 inch, 500 Mbyte. A 3.5 inch, 100 Mbyte model also is expected. On the software scene, this summer should see the arrival of several major pieces of OS/2 software: Wordstar 2000, Harvard Project Manager, Borland's Developers' Tools, Quattro, and Paradox, and Lotus 1-2-3 Release 3 (which also will be MS-DOS compatible). The new 1-2-3 will have an "undo" key, record ("learn") macros, faster calculations, and a 3-dimensional worksheet capability. - Random Access 5 and 12 March and InfoWorld 14 March.

Black Magic.

Ntergard, a Bridgeport, Connecticut start-up, has announced a $150 MS-DOS wordprocessor that incorporates "hypertext" features. The program, Black Magic version 1.12, requires a minimum of 192K, a hard disk, and EGA display. - Hartford Courant 16 March.

Extended OS/2 (and Then Some).

Extended Edition 1.0 of OS/2, due in July, will come on 11 (that's eleven) 1.4 Mbyte 3.5 inch disks. In November, Edition 1.1 will be delivered on 16 of the little floppies (nearly 22.5 Mbytes). Like A/Ux, the preferred method of delivery may be on a hard disk. - PC Week 23 February.

Successor for the //c?

Rumors of a IIgs portable have been overheard in and around Apple's headquarters in Cupertino. So far, they appear to be mere trial balloons (is there any interest?). If Apple can develop a satisfactory display for the LapMac (see last month's column and below), a laptop IIgs may become a reality as well. - Plato Net March.

LapMac Screens on Order.

Apple has placed a large order with a Japanese manufacturer for delivery of active matrix LCD screens in July. The screens are said to be faster, cooler, and easier to read than existing LCD displays. Some specs for the LapMac: 16 MHz 68000 processor, 2.5 Mbytes of RAM, an 800K 3.5 inch disk, and a 20 Mbyte hard drive, all for about $6,000. - PC Week 23 February and Random Access 5 March.

Two-Side Laser Printing.

A new generation of laser printers offering automatic two-sided printing may appear as early as this Fall for less than $5,000. The printer engine, called the Canon LBP-8IIT, is an upgrade of the LP8-SX now in use in the Hewlett-Packard LaserJet II and Apple's LaserWriter II among others. In duplex mode, the printer will produce four pages per minute (essentially, the same speed as the eight pages per minute of existing single-sided printers). The printer is expected to weigh in at 60 pounds. - PC Week 8 March.

Continued on page 6.

NEW MAC VIRUS!

From Washington Apple Pi.

By Dave Lavery.

We have discovered a new virus that is circulating through the Macintosh community. This is not the now-infamous MacMag virus, but is a completely new and, as far as I can tell, unreported version. As of this date, we have not determined exactly what the virus does other than replicate itself. Because we do not know exactly what this thing does yet, we are very concerned about the possibility of any invisible operations and "time bombs" that it may contain. The presence of the virus in the Macintosh memory does causes several symptoms, which have caused losses of data. These symptoms include difficulty running MacDraw, difficulty printing from any applications (especially MacDraw), difficulty using the "Set Startup" option, difficulty running Excel, corruption of Excel files, and frequent crashes when starting applications. This virus has existed since at least February, 1988, and may have been around as early as September, 1987.

Identification of "infection":

It is possible to determine if this virus has infected your Macintosh with the following procedure: 1) Open the System Folder of the Macintosh and locate the "Note Pad File" and "Scrapbook File". 2) Examine the icons used on these files and check that they resemble the small Macintoshes seen on the "System" and "Finder" icons. If they do not, and instead resemble the standard Macintosh document icon (an upright piece of paper with the upper right corner folded forward), you are probably infected. 3) To verify infection, execute ResEdit or some other utility which can see "invisible" files. Examine the System Folder. 4) If the System Folder contains two invisible files named "Desktop" and "Scores", you are definitely infected.

The infection process:

The virus transmits itself from Macintosh to Macintosh by invading a standard executable application file on a contaminated Macintosh. When this contaminated application is copied to a "sterile" Macintosh, the virus attacks the new system by making these changes to the System Folder: three INIT resources are added to the "System" file. If the files "Note Pad File" and "Scrapbook File" do not exist in the System Folder, they are created. The type and creator fields of the "Note Pad File" are changed from "ZSYS" and "MACS" to "INIT" and "ZSYS", respectively, and an INIT resource is added to the file. The type and creator fields of the "Scrapbook File" are changed from "ZSYS" and "MACS" to "RDEV" and "ZSYS", respectively, and an INIT resource is added to the file.Two new, invisible file are added to the system folder, named "Desktop" and "Scores", each with an atpl, DATA and INIT resource. These changes are summarized below:

FILE	TYPE	CREATOR	NEW?	INVIS?	RESOURCES		SIZE BYTES
System	ZSYS	MACS	No	No	INIT	ID=6	772
						ID=10	1020
						ID=17	480
Desktop	INIT	FNDR	Yes	Yes	atpl	ID=128	2410
					DATA	ID=-4001	7026
					INIT	ID=10	1020
Note Pad	INIT	ZSYS	No	No	INIT	ID=6	772
Scores	RDEV	ZSYS	Yes	Yes	atpl	ID=128	2410
					DATA	ID=-4001	7026
					INIT	ID=10	1020
Scrapbook	RDEV	ZSYS	No	No	INIT	ID=17	480
						ID=6	772

Note that, unlike the MacMag virus, no "nVIR" resource are used anywhere. The modified files, "Note Pad" and "Scrapbook", still appear to function normally with the Note Pad and Scrapbook Desk Accessories, and any existing contents of the file's Data Fork are not disturbed.

Once the system files on the target Macintosh have been infected, the virus will then begin to attack applications. Not every application is attacked by the virus - the determination of whether or not to infect an application is apparently a random decision (at this point, no discernible pattern has been found, except that "Finder" and "MultiFinder" are usually attacked). Applications that are attacked on one Macintosh may remain "sterile" on another Mac, and vice versa.

As each application is attacked, the virus installs a new CODE resource into the application. The identification of this new resource is variable, depending upon the existing resources within the application. The virus looks for the first available CODE resource slot, then places the new resource one position above that. For example, HyperCard contains CODE resources 0 through 20, leaving an ID of 21 as the first available resource ID. The virus placed the new CODE resource in the application as CODE ID=22.

The second step of the infection of the application is the modification of the CODE ID=0 resource of the application. The virus modifies the eleventh word of this resource, which is the start of the application's jump table. Where the application would normally jump to the CODE ID=1 segment, the virus modifies this pointer to refer to the new CODE resource that has just been installed. The example below shows the first sixteen words of a installed. The example below shows the first sixteen words of a "sterile" and infected version of HyperCard:

Sterile	Infected
0000 1EF0 0000 559C	0000 1EF0 0000 559C
0000 1ED0 0000 0020	0000 1ED0 0000 0020
0008 3F3C 0001 A9F0	0008 3F3C 0016 A9F0
0000 3F3C 0001 A9F0	0000 3F3C 0001 A9F0

Note that the eleventh word has been changed from "0001" to "0016", which points to the new CODE ID=22 resource (hex 16 = decimal 22). Also note that during our examination of suspected applications, we found that at least one compiler - LightSpeed C, I think - normally places non-"0001" values in the eleventh word of the CODE ID=0 resource. To verify infection if the eleventh word is not "0001", check to see that the tenth word is NOT "4EED" and that the eleventh word points to another CODE resource. If both of these are true, then the application is infected.

The new CODE resource is a copy of the virus code, is of size 7026, and is executed when the infected application is invoked. When the virus completes execution, it returns to the invoked application, which appears to proceed normally. The first sixteen words of the virus are:

```
0000 0001 xxxx 3F3C
0001 A9F0 4EBA 002E
204D D0FC 0020 43FA
FFEC 20D9 2091 204D
...
```

The third word of the virus code is variable, and appears to be based on the return address used when the execution of the virus is completed. The virus further modifies the code of the application in a manner which has not been fully deciphered. This was determined by attempting to recover the HyperCard application by removing the new CODE ID=22 resource and patching the eleventh word of the CODE ID=0 resource. Any attempt to run the rebuilt application resulted in a system bomb, intimating that the virus has modified other sections of the application which prevented it's complete exorcism.

Continued on page 6.

Vaporware

From page 4.

New MacWare From Microsoft.

Microsoft plans to upgrade its entire Macintosh product line by the end of this year. New releases that soon will be announced include Excel 1.5 and Excel 2.0, Word 4.0, File 2.0, MacWorks 2.0, and enhanced versions of PowerPaint and Mail. - PC Week 1 March.

Zenith Laptops.

Around July 1 Zenith will begin shipping 80286 and 80386 laptops which will be even slimmer (about 30% lighter) than the popular Z-183 laptops. - InfoWorld 22 February.

Beyond the Mac III.

Motorola is already shipping beta-samples of it's new 88000 family of RISC (Reduced Instruction Set CPU) microprocessors. The 88000 consists of two cache chips and a CPU which will implement both integer and floating point math, run at 17 MIPS with over 50 MIPS in parallel processing mode. The two cache chips (one for instructions, the other for data) allow data and instructions to move in parallel into the CPU for more efficient processing. - InfoWorld 22 February.

Faster RAM Under Development.

The prospect of ever faster CPU's creates an obvious need for faster memory chips. An IBM scientist made a presentation to a recent International Solid-State Circuits Conference which described 20 nanosecond DRAM (Dynamic Random Access Memory) chips which are under development. These chips will be about three times faster than the current generation of DRAMs. Matsushita, Toshiba, and Hitachi also presented experimental 16-megabit (that's 2 Mbyte) DRAMs at the same conference. - InfoWorld 22 February.

Color Macintosh Hardcopy?

Xerox has inked a marketing agreement with Macintosh software developer Cricket. Cricket will produce Macintosh and Windows-based graphics software to interface with, as yet unannounced, Xerox color printers and film recorders. - InfoWorld 22 February.

Toward a "Positronic Brain?"

Computers the size of molecules - nanocomputers are measured in nanometers (billionths of meters) - are one of the hottest topics discussed in computer labs these days. According to Eric Drexler of the Foresight Institute in Palo Alto, California, the biggest problem is not designing or making the machines; it's building assemblers to program them with. The first nanocomputers probably will be little more than complex proteins designed for bio-engineering applications. More complex models will follow; the biggest advantage is that reducing the size of computers substantially increases their practical operating speed. Mr. Drexler concedes that the technology is still about ten years away but expects one day to be able to put a half a trillion 32-bit CPU's in one water cooled cubic centimeter. - PC Week 16 February.

Integrated Home Entertainment.

NBC, United Artists, and United Cable have launched a joint venture called the Interactive Game Network which will develop a hand-held computer that will allow couch potatoes to participate in televised game shows from the comfort of their own living rooms. The technology is expected to be marketed in 1990. - Random Access 27 February. --NoVA8

Mac Virus

From page 5.

Vaccinating your Macintosh:

If your Macintosh is infected, the contaminated system files and applications must be completely removed from the Macintosh, and new ORIGINAL copies should be installed. When removing the virus from the Macintosh system files, you cannot just go in with ResEdit and delete the offensive INIT resources - this virus is apparently intelligent enough to recognize this attempt, and modifies it's resource identification and memory location when probed by resource utilities. ResEdit "thinks" that the virus resources have been deleted, but they have been renamed and will return when the Macintosh is restarted. The system must be sterilized by:

1) Examine EVERY application (including any in the System Folder, and on EVERY diskette you may have) you have with ResEdit, and check if a new CODE resource has been added and if the CODE ID=0 resource has been modified to refer to the new CODE. This is the most tedious part of the process, and will probably take quite a bit of time. I have about 160MB of stuff on two 100MB drives, and this step took about three hours. If the application has been infected, list it.

2) Using ResEdit, open the infected System Folder and locate the "Desktop" file. Select the file and use the "Get Info" option on the"File" menu. When the file information window opens, turn off the "Invisible" bit, then close the window and save the file information. Do the same for the "Scores" file.

3) Locate a sterile system diskette (preferably one of the "System Tools" diskettes from Apple), LOCK IT, and boot from it.

4) Throw away the following files from the infected System Folder: "System", "Finder", "MultiFinder", "Desktop", "Scores", "Scrapbook File", and "Note Pad File". Once these files are in the Trash Can, EMPTY THE TRASH IMMEDIATELY! Note: this is the minimum required to remove the System portion of the virus - my personal preference is to delete the ENTIRE System Folder, not just the suspect files in it.

5) Locate all of the applications which you listed in Step 1. Throw them away, and empty the Trash Can.

6) Shut down the Macintosh, and turn the power off. Wait at least 30 seconds for memory to clear before rebooting again from the sterile diskette (this may not really be necessary, but better safe than sorry).

7) Reinstall the Macintosh operating system from the System Tools diskette to your Macintosh.

8) Locate your original copies of the deleted applications software. Before reinstalling the applications, examine each one with ResEdit to be sure that it is sterile. If there is no problem, reinstall the application.

A word of warning:

The "Vaccine" CDEV which is currently appearing on bulletin boards is only marginally useful in fighting this virus - if your system is already infected when you install Vaccine, you will not get any warning from Vaccine that the virus exists. If you have Vaccine installed on a sterile system, and this virus is introduced at a later time, Vaccine will only warn you of the virus attack, but will not prevent infection. I do not know how far this virus has spread, or where it came from (although we are working on that). The information contained above reflects only what we know so far about this virus - I do not know if it has any maliciously destructive functions which have not yet activated, or if it does anything other than replicate.

Continued on page 8.

OFFICERS OF NOVAPPLE

PRESIDENT	Dave Harvey	578-4621	EDITOR	Chuck Edmiston	922-7826
VICE PRES (Pro-Temp)	Ted McGlohn	979-2052	HOTLINE		
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MACINTOSH PROGRAMS	Tom Lucas	321-9593	BBS SYSOP	Bill Sanderson	352-1568
DISKETTE LIBRARIAN	Pat Herlands	532-5589	DOCUMENT		
GROUP PURCHASERS	Shelly Kramer	960-9424	LIBRARIAN	Alan Florkowski	524-2387

The Area Codes for Club officers if calling outside the Meto Area is (703 - Va) or (301 - MD).
CLUB PHONE (Answering machine with announcements - will record your messages.) (301) 899-4005

Our newsletter is published monthly, runs 10 pages a month, with a circulation of over 200. The newsletter is partially supported by advertising and we are always looking for new advertisers. Members can place non-commerical ads in the newsletter for free. Our advertising rates are listed below and payable in full when the ad is placed. A ten percent discount for 5 issues. For more info, please contact Dave Havery at (703) 578-4621, or leave a message at the Club phone.

Business Card size = $10.00
Quarter Page size = $20.00 Half Page size = $ 30.00 Half Page size (back cover) = $35.00
Full Page size = $50.00 Full Page (inside front cover) or (inside back cover) = $60.00

HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS!!

May 1, 1988.

The NOVAPPLE HOTLINE

is a list of Volunteers who have agreed to answer your questions by phone. Please limit to 10 PM. Pass UPDATES to Jim Thornburg in writing or call (H) 750 1367.

SUBJECT	LAST NAME, FIRST	PHONE
Applesoft	Fuller, Theron	703 370 5563
Appleworks	Concauth, Ina	703 256 3062
	Thornburg, Jim	703 750 1367
AppleWriter][	Harvey, Dave	703 578 4621
	Edmiston, Chuck	703 922 7826
ASCII Express	Harvey, Dave	703 578 4621
Communications,Modems	Harvey, Dave	703 578 4621
	Edmiston, Chuck	703 922 7826
Format II	Harvey, Dave	703 578 4621
Imagewriter	Thornburg, Jim	703 750 1367
New Users	Thornburg, Jim	703 750 1367
Pascal	Robinson, Betsy	703 354 8459
PFS:File	Lucas, Tom	703 321 9593
PFS:Report	Lucas, Tom	703 321 9593
Printers (Days Only)	Raesly, Lee	301 439 1799
Proline (BBS)	Edwards, Fred	301 229 5118
Promodem 1200A	Harvey, Dave	703 578 4621
ProWriter Printer	Edwards, Fred	301 229 5118
Screenwriter II	Lucas, Tom	703 321 9593
VISICALC	Thornburg, Jim	703 750 1367
--- Macintosh ---		
Database Programs	Hoar, Brendan	703 998 8657
General	Hoar, Brendan	703 998 8657

Additional areas needing assistance:
Printers: Prowriter, Okidata, Gemni, Centronics
Investments: Stocks, Bonds, Commodities
Hard Disks Logo Real Estate Source 128/Memory Cards,etc..You may leave questions on the Bulletin Board with your name as an alternative....

NAUG CONFERENCE

By Jim Thornburg

Attending the National Apple Users Groups Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan on April 8 thru April 10, 1988 was a real eye opener and a distinct pleasure.

The Chairman, Dough Houseman and his staff really did a super job in organizing the Conference. Especially noteworthy was a three ring binder, presented to all attendees/delegates. The binder included the schedules and times and locations for all the events to occur. The NAUGC was held at the Holiday Inn West, the staff really did a swell job in setting up for Luncheons, Dinners and Meetings.

If you have never seen a Mac (Macintosh) in action, this was the place to observe the Mac. Since one of the Sponsors was MacTechnics, they really gave us an exhibition on what the Mac can do. Especially Mac II. The price, well! that is something else. To all of you whom own a Mac, more power to you, for us Apple IIe owner's, we can only envy the Mac owner for what it puts out. No I still love my Apple IIe, but graphic' capability is less desirable in what it can accomplish than the Mac.

I attended meetings on Putting together Newsletters, and found out that every other User Club attending, seems to have the same problem in publishing a newsletter, that NOVAPPLE Club has: no one writing articles, time pressure for publishing and cost effective pricing of the printing. Some Clubs seem to be using programs like, "Publish It" or "Personal Newsletter" to assist in the make up for printing. One newsletter was called the E.A.C (Erie _____ Club), very clever in getting around the problem of using the proper name..

I also attended a Bulletin Board Session, which again stated that they were suffering the same problems and cost effectiveness, of presenting some type of Software to give their members the best BBS in the area. After listening to some of their Comments, I must admit, that our "ProLine BBS" seems to have more benefits and options than any software mentioned. Some BBS were much more restrictive than ours, which seemed to be a necessity in their case.

Continued on page 8.

LIFE WITH "LITTLE BLUE!"
(APPLIED ENGINEERING'S IBM/PC EMULATOR CARD.)

From Big-Chief.

I received Applied Engineering's IBM/PC emulator card about a month ago, and I have been working/playing with it extensively. I thought that I would share my opinions of it with those who are interested in this little gem.

First off, though nothing is perfect in life or computers, this IBM/PC emulator sure does come close. This text file is written utilizing the card (A/E calls it the "PC Transporter") and the "Wordstar Professional (Version 4)" word processor. The ability of the transporter to successfully perform MS-DOS applications/programs is amazing. Very few programs will not properly perform on the transporter. One program that does not work is IBM's BASIC/BASICA programs, but the MS-DOS program GWBASIC will. This, and a few utility programs, are the only programs I have yet to find that "bomb-out" on the transporter. To compensate for this however, A/E had supplied a number of support/utility programs that also help in effectively using the transporter while still maintaining rapport with the world of Apples.

The A/E 5 1/4 disk drive is needed to read MS-DOS 5 1/4 disks as A/E's drive is double-sided and Apple's is single sided. The encoding techniques among the two drives are also different. The IBM/PC world uses modified frequency modulation (mfm) while the world of Apple uses group code recording (gcr). This is why there is a need to buy a separate drive if you desire to use MS-DOS on 5 1/4 disks. The good news is that Apple's 3.5 disk drives can work in both worlds, but there is one draw-back. You cannot use the 3.5 Drives to boot both apple and ms-dos disks because for some reason A/E did not/could not include a apple "boot rom" on the transporter. If you connect the 3.5 Drives directly to the transporter, they will boot MS-DOS programs, and can still be accessed from prodos, but they can not boot-load Apple programs. This is limiting if you don't have a hard-disk and want to use IIgs System Utilities/Music Studio/DeluxPaint/etc. You also can not connect Apple's 3.5 Uni-disk drives to the transporter; if you do, you will lose them both in a puff of smoke!

The transporter also has additional "RAM" to contribute to the computer system, from 384K to 768K, depending on your desires and bank account, but this is misleading. Example: if you have apple's memory expansion card with 1Meg, plus the IIgs's initial 256K, you could run a program using 1.25Meg of memory. But the transporter's ram is not accumulative with the rest of the ram in this example. The transporter ram does not give you enough ram to run a 2meg program, what you have is one set of RAM with 1.25 and another, separate set of RAM with .75Meg. I have yet to see a 2Meg program, so this is not a serious drawback; you should understand exactly what the situation is. This RAM is made available by one of the very useful utility programs that A/E supplies. This A/E utility modifies the ProDOS system program to recognize the addition RAM that is available on the transporter (unfortunately, I have yet to get this utility to function properly). This leads me to what is the only major draw-back with this A/E system - documentation (as in lack of).

The excellent job that A/E did in the areas of hardware and software is distracted by noticeable "holes" in their documentation. They frequently used the cop-out "the program is menu driven and its operation is easy to understand". Well, I didn't find it so easy. They also left a couple of holes in the procedure for formatting the hard-disk and using to boot the system (though I did finally figure that one out). Maybe I have been spoiled by a step-by-step "cook-book" method. The rest of the utilities are very useful, such as the utility that allows for the transfer of some files between MS-DOS and ProDOS. That is how I got this Wordstar file from MS-DOS to send out on my prodos based "MouseTalk" modem program.

Another surprise for me is that A/E did not include the operating system for MS-DOS, no big thing, but I had assumed that it would be provided, but this could have to do with copyright laws. As far as for the different apple computer systems, if you have a IIgs, you have it made. The monitor, the keyboard, the internal printer/mouse/modem ports. If you have the //e or II+, the transporter will work just fine, but you might have some other problems. I would strongly encourage you to purchase the optional PC keyboard. A/E supplies "driver" programs for the more popular printer/modems cards. If in doubt, call A/E and their engineers are more than willing to help you.

--NoVA's

MAUG From page 7.

One of the sessions was on a Standarization of the Disk Library. A numerical system of some dimensions was to be used to identify the Disk by using a number to represent the files on the disk. It seem to me it might be a good idea to use some type of identification for example a 10,000 series could represent all applesoft disks; then 10,100 could represent applesoft utility disks etc. Something may come of this in the future meetings.

I would remind you, that the NAUGC was composed of over 500 different User Groups in the United States and Canada, and all seem to have the same problems, such as Attendance at meetings, Dues structure, Newsletter output (articles etc), program structure. As an aside to all of this activity, you must remember, The computer industry does not and will not stand still, which means that today's computer will be obsolete tomorrow, so we better get together on what we have and do the best we can in diseminating information to our User Group members. I did get a good feeling that the Clubs were definitely working together on most of the subjects and problems which are inherent in all clubs.

--NoVA's

Mac Virus From page 6.

I do know that it is extremely virulent - it has defensive mechanisms built in to protect itself from deletion, most of it's resources are protected, and it places multiple copies of it's components throughout the system to avoid single-point-of-failure destruction. This thing is an order of magnitude more sophisticated than the MacMag virus, and is considerably tougher to kill.

So far, the virus appears to only affect system files and application files. Data files (documents, spreadsheet data, HyperCard stacks, etc.) do not appear to be affected, and do not seem to transmit the virus.

While not apparently maliciously destructive, I have established that the mere presence of this virus in the system is sufficient to cause the printing and application instability problems (like the ones we have been experiencing). Once the virus has been removed, all of our reported Macintosh problems have gone away. I believe that whoever wrote this could not foresee enough of the potential system configurations to prevent an occasional collision between the virus and other active applications and printer drivers.

Apple in Cuppertino has become intimately aware of this virus in the last two days. They are going to be working on a more complete disassembly of the virus, and will hopefully be able to determine exactly what this thing does.

--NoVA's

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GRACELIA R. HELRING

Se Habla Espanol

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

REGULAR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1st Saturday -- Room 243, Bisdorf Bldg, Alex Campus Northern Virginia (NOVA) CC - 10:00 AM
3rd Wednesday -- Room No.1, FAIRLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER
3300 S. Stafford Street in Arlington - 7:30 PM

Board of Directors of Novapple Meetings - Call the Club Phone for address of meeting.

Saturday	May 07	10:00 AM	NVCC	Telecommunications - BBS Fun
Sunday	May 15	1:00 PM	Tom Lucas' Home	Novapple Board Meeting
Wednesday	May 18	7:30 PM	FCC	AppleWorks Tutorial

Saturday	Jun. 4	10:00 AM	NVCC	Apple Art & Graphics
Wednesday	Jun. 15	7:30 PM	FCC	Educational Software

Saturday	July 2	10:00 AM	NVCC	Memory Cards for the Apple
Wednesday	July 20	7:30 PM	FCC	Word Processors

CLUB PHONE (Answering machine with all the latest announcements - will also record your messages.) (703) 899-4005

Pro-Novapple Bulletin Board System - (ProDOS BBS system) Runs at 300, 1200, and 2400 baud speed ....(703) 352-5842
(New phone number for the bulletin board to become effective about the first of June) .....(703) 671-0416

** Effective around June 1988, Pro-Novapple BBS will be moving to a new home. Bill Sanderson will be stepping **
** down as Sysop of the system and Dave Havery will be taking over. So on or about June 1988, to connect **
** with the Pro-Novapple BBS, please call (703) 671-0416. **

Membership & General Correspondence: NOVAPPLE, P.O. Box 8211, Falls Church, VA. 22041-8211
Diskette Orders: . . . . . NOVAPPLE, 6069 Wooten Drive, Falls Church, VA. 22044
Newsletter Info & Requests:. . . . NOVAPPLE, 6504 Bowie Drive, Springfield, VA. 22150

NOVAPPLE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Dave Harvey.

The April meeting of the Board of Directors of Novapple met on April 17, 1988 at the home of Tom Lucas.

Minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

The next item was status of the Novapple treasury. Since Ina was not present this report was not available, however, it was found out later that we are finally out of the red and now in the black. All bills that we have received have now been paid.

The next item was membership status. A discussion followed on how to encourage attendance at the general meetings. One suggestion was to publish a survey of members to find out what their interests are and what they would like to see presented at meetings that would make them want to come to our meetings. Jim volunteered to work on a questionnaire that would be inserted in the newsletter that could be tore out and sent back. Our membership is increasing but exact figures were not available. Ted reported that he had most of the material that was held by Bill Sanderson, the past vice-president. Ted still doesn't have an up-to-date membership roster. Bill will get that to him as soon as possible. All new membership applications now going out contain Ted's address as the place to send back the filled out application.

The next item on the agenda was the status of repair of our hard disk that's used by our BBS. At first we thought that our only option for repair of the hard disk was to send it back to the factory and pay at least a minimum of $250.00. We find now, courtesy of Mike Ungerman, a previous member of Novapple, that there is a third part company that can repair the hard disk for a lot less.

Considering the large costs involved in this repair and because this item was not in our 1988, the SYSOP of Pro-Novapple, Bill Sanderson, has suggested that a "Repair Fund" be established to help pay for this, where donations would be requested from users on the system to help pay for the repairs. Everyone thought that was a good idea and the setting up of a fund was approved.

The next item discussed was status of the newsletter. Chuck reported that the April issue of the newsletter was now at the printers and the May issue should be out on time. Discussed was methods that could be use to make it easier to produce the newsletter.

The next item discussed was status of the disk library. Since the disk librarian, Pat Herlands, was not present, we didn't have a report on that. We are still missing some of the Apple //GS disks that were produced by Washington Apple Pi. We will investigate how to get all of the missing disks for our library.

The next item discussed was our meeting location for our meetings. Concern was expressed that now that Ernie Phillip has moved to Woodbridge and is teaching down there, that we might loose our meeting places. Dave Harvey pointed out that Ernie still teaches at the Alexandria campus in the evening and Ernie has assured him that there will be no problems. Dave Harvey reported that Ernie is looking for a more attractive meeting room at the Alexandria campus, possibly at the Tyler building where we might be able to get a storage room as well to hold our hard copy library. Our present room, room 243 in the Bisdorf Building is an adequate room to meet but it is removed from room 105 where our hard copy library is located, so our library is not readily available to members.

The last item on the agenda before breaking up was when the next meeting will be held. Sunday, May 15 was the date set for the next meeting at 1:00 pm.

NOVAPPLE
P. O. BOX 8211
FALLS CHURCH, VA.
22041-8211

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